

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

STUART D. HOWARD,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ANDREW BARKSDALE, #1733, Official capacity; EIRICH, Inv., #1620, Official capacity; J. TENNEY, #1821, Official capacity; HYLAND, Inv., Official capacity; WIARDA, Inv., #1789, Official capacity; BERRY, Inv., #1794, Official capacity; LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT, KOSSOW, Sgt., #1310; LANCASTER COUNTY TASK FORCE, and EISENMENGER, #1813;

Defendants.

4:25CV3136

MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

On June 26, 2025, Plaintiff Stuart D. Howard filed an unsigned Complaint, [Filing No. 1](#).¹ On that same date, the Clerk of Court advised Plaintiff that his Complaint was unsigned and therefore deficient. The Clerk of Court directed Plaintiff to “correct the deficiency” (i.e., file a signed Complaint) within 14 days, or the pleading “may be stricken from the record of this case.” Filing No. 2 (text order). Plaintiff has failed to follow the Clerk of Court’s directions.

In addition, when Plaintiff filed his Complaint, he failed to include the \$405.00 filing and administrative fees. Plaintiff has the choice of either submitting the \$405.00

¹ The Court notes Plaintiff’s Complaint appears to be incomplete as page 11 of the Form Pro Se 14 Complaint for Violation of Civil Rights (Prisoner) was not included.

filing and administrative fees to the Clerk's office or submitting a request to proceed in forma pauperis ("IFP").²

Accordingly, the Court shall order Plaintiff to file a signed Complaint in accordance with [Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11](#) and the Court's Local Rules and either submit the \$405.00 filing and administrative fees or a request to proceed in forma pauperis. This matter cannot proceed until the foregoing deficiencies are corrected. FAILURE TO CORRECT THE DEFECTS WITHIN 30 DAYS WILL RESULT IN DISMISSAL OF THE COMPLAINT WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

1. Plaintiff is directed to correct the above-listed technical defects on or before **August 21, 2025**. To be clear, Plaintiff must (1) file a signed copy of his Complaint and (2) either pay the \$405.00 filing and administrative fees or submit a request to proceed in forma pauperis to the Clerk's office. Failure to comply with this Memorandum and Order will result in dismissal of this matter without prejudice and without further notice.

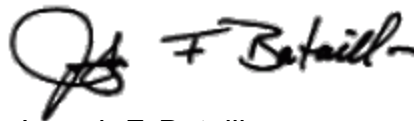
2. The Clerk of the Court is directed to send to Plaintiff the Form AO240 ("Application to Proceed Without Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit").

3. The Clerk of the Court is directed to set a pro se case management deadline in this matter with the following text: **August 21, 2025**: deadline for signed Complaint and MIFP or payment.

² If Plaintiff is granted leave to proceed IFP in this matter, he will be allowed to pay the Court's \$350 filing fee in installments. See [28 U.S.C. § 1915\(b\)\(1\)](#); [In re Tyler, 110 F.3d 528, 529–30 \(8th Cir. 1997\)](#). He would not be subject to the \$55.00 administrative fee assessed to non-IFP plaintiffs. Prisoner plaintiffs are required to pay the full amount of the Court's \$350.00 filing fee by making monthly payments to the Court, even if the prisoner is proceeding IFP. [28 U.S.C. § 1915\(b\)](#).

Dated this 22nd day of July, 2025.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J F Bataillon". The signature is stylized with a large, circular initial "J" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joseph F. Bataillon
Senior United States District Judge